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unable to ascertain the number of cases there, but by figuring on a mortality of 20 per cent, the estimated number of cases would indicate that the infection is diffused throughout the city. I have seen several cases in Merida and know positively of several others, and their location includes about every section of the town.

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Respectfully, SAMUEL H. HODGSON,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Concerning malarial fever on the steamship Segurança at Havana.

PROGRESO, MEXICO, *September 14, 1901.*

SIR: I have the honor to make the following report for the week ended September 14:

From all causes there were 7 deaths, none from quarantinable diseases.

In the shipping there have been several cases of malarial fever, none of which can be attributed to this port. An alarming report was published in a Merida paper about 5 cases of yellow fever that were found aboard of the steamship *Segurança* upon her arrival from Havana, but upon investigation I found 3 men suffering from malarial infection that had been contracted in Tampico two weeks previously. On the return trip of the vessel all of the sick men were at work (at least, those that had been sick).

There does not seem to be any abatement in the yellow fever situation in Merida, 3 deaths having been reported during the past week.

There has been no case reported in this port for two weeks and no death during the summer.

Respectfully, S. H. HODGSON,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Report from Vera Cruz—Shower of birds in the city.

VERA CRUZ, MEXICO, *September 24, 1901.*

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following report of the transactions at this station during the week ended September 21, 1901:

Five cases of yellow fever and 2 deaths from the disease are reported for the week.

The rainy season is now passed and again we have warm weather.

A remarkable phenomenon was witnessed in this city on Thursday, the 19th. Without apparent atmospheric cause, thousands of birds were dropped over the city dead, and many thousand more were found in an exhausted or crippled condition. The streets and the roofs of houses were strewn with the bodies of variously colored small birds which were picked up in baskets by the people. Several hundred were found on the roof of the consulate building. Most of the birds were of the sparrow size, but possessed variegated colors and were indigenous to Mexico.

On account of sickness, your medical officer was unable to inspect the passengers sailing on the steamship *Esperanza* on the 19th.

Mr. Canada, the consul, kindly took charge of the work, issued certificates, and cleared the vessel.

I inclose the mortality report for the week.

Respectfully, D. E. DUDLEY,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S Marine-Hospital Service.

[Inclosure.]

Vera Cruz, Mexico—Mortality report for the week ended September 21, 1901.

Yellow fever	2	Gastro-enteritis	1
Tuberculosis	3	Entero-colitis	1
Malaria	2	Pernicious malaria	3
Meningitis	1	Pneumonia	1
Tetanus	3	Total deaths from all causes	31

NICARAGUA.

Report from Bluefields—Fruit port.

BLUEFIELDS, NICARAGUA, *September 26, 1901.*

SIR: I have to make the following report of the conditions and transactions at this port during the week ended September 26, 1901:

Population, according to census of 1894, 3,000; present officially estimated population, 4,000. Number of cases and deaths from yellow fever during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from smallpox during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from typhus fever during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from cholera during the week, none; number of cases and deaths from plague during the week, none; number of deaths from other causes during the week, 3. Prevailing disease, mild type of malarial fever. General sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week was very good. The 3 deaths herein above noted occurred in this port, viz, a colored female, aged 4 months, from malarial fever; an Indian male, "snake doctor," aged 48 years, from "snake bite," and a colored female, aged 33 years, puerperal fever.

Bills of health were issued to the following vessels: September 19, steamship *Condor;* crew, 16; passengers from this port, none; passengers in transit, none; pieces of baggage disinfected, none. September 22, steamship *George W. Kelley;* crew, 19; passengers from this port, 10; passengers in transit, none; pieces of baggage disinfected, 19,

Respectfully, WM. H. CARSON,
Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Mortuary statistics of Manila.

MANILA, P. I., *August 26, 1901.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit for your information mortuary statistics of Manila, P. I., for the week ended August 17, 1901.

Respectfully, J. C. PERRY,
Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.,
Chief Quarantine Officer for the Philippine Islands.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.